

NEWSLETTER FOR THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE CHULA VISTA ANIMAL CARE FACILITY VOL. 5 Summer 2006



I'm going to
Petco to find a
new home!!!

It has been a hectic summer, with the CVACF staff inundated with puppies and kittens, and scores of adoption events and community outreach programs. We apologize for missing a few months of Pet Scoop, but we are back on track and excited about resuming our monthly publications!

*Thanks again to volunteer **Paula Tschauner**, who continues to edit, format and publish our volunteer newsletter!*



CVACF at Petco Park!

We have participated in one Padre ball game adoption event this season, which was a HUGE success, thanks to volunteers **Georgia, Tory, Trent, Steve, Travis Girtten, Deborah Martin** and staff member **Isabel Bermudez** and Chris Midlam. Our dogs were featured on the "big screen" and they were all quickly adopted. Staff and volunteers were given free tickets for a BBQ and Padre game on August 16.

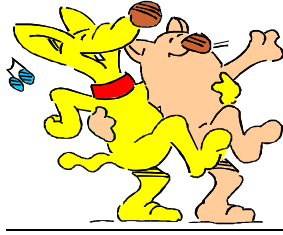


**PETCO PARK, WHERE ADOPTIONS
ARE A HOME RUN.....**

Volunteering pays off!

Our next Petco Park adoption event is August 20th. Let us know if you are available.





PET FEST DOGGY DASH BIGGER THAN EVER

This year's Pet Fest, held in Memorial Park on June 25th, sponsored by the Chula Vista Downtown Business Association was a smashing success! Vendors, educational presentations, the Neuter Scooter, and the famous "doggy dash" all made for a wonderful community dog event that also raised \$1,700 for the CVACF! The funds have been deposited into our veterinary medical account to provide better health care for our animals. Volunteers *Travis Corley, Mike Pagano, Nicolas Floresta and Tory Girten* dashed with 6 CVACF dogs that were all adopted thanks to their appearance at the event.



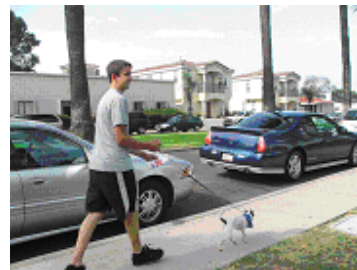
MIKE



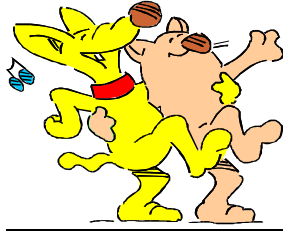
TRAVIS



NICK



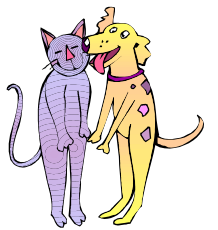
TORY



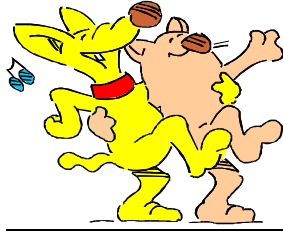
ONYX FINDS A WONDERFUL HOME THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to the tireless efforts of volunteers **Penny Adams** and **Laura Backe**, many dogs with severe medical conditions are exited from the CVACF to obtain specialized medical care.

One such success story is Onyx, a sweet black lab-x, that arrived at our facility with a fractured hind leg that had been previously pinned. Penny's non-profit "Foundation for the Care of Indigent Animals" (FCIA) paid for a 2nd surgery for Onyx, and CVACF foster volunteer **Nicole Osborn** kept Onyx for weeks during her recovery. FCIA then placed Onyx in a loving home, and she has since recovered from a 3rd surgery involving a bone graft. Laura recently snapped a picture of Onyx at a FCIA adoption event. Dedicated volunteers like **Penny**, **Laura** and **Nicole** help us have success stories like Onyx's.



We love those volunteers......



what's New at the Facility

Great news! The CVACF has increased its staff by 2 more people since the last newsletter. We would like to introduce you to Linda Davis, Animal Care Assistant and Linda Septon, our 2nd Adoption Counselor, joining Isabel Bermudez on our adoption staff. Both ladies were formerly employed by the San Diego Humane Society. Stop by and welcome them the next time you are at the facility.

LINDA
DAVIS



LINDA
SEPTON

We have completed the remodeling of the lobby annex to form a new work station in order to better serve the public. A new door into this lobby allows the entry of people with pets and they now have easy access (with no lines!) to a customer service representative at the new lobby desk.

Improving customer service is a constant goal, and volunteers helped develop this idea into reality.

We have also turned a small room into a mini-office for our new adoption counselor, which provides better access to the public.

CVACF FOSTER PROGRAM SAVES HUNDREDS OF KITTIES

As the summer draws to a close, we look forward to the end of puppy and kitty season. It is a formidable challenge to care for hundreds of newborns that arrive at our facility from April-September. Animal Care Assistant Eileen Akers has guided the CVACF through our first season of having a formal foster program. Over 60 volunteer foster parents have successfully raised over 300 kittens to an adoptable age! Eileen has recruited many City of Chula Vista employees to be foster parents. Volunteer *Kim Schantz*, from the Office of Communications is one of our dedicated foster volunteers. Look for next month's issue to read a feature story about the Foster Program.

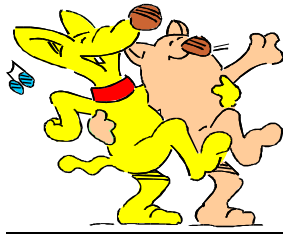


Chucky BFC(Before Foster Care)

OUR BEFORE
AND AFTER
PICTURE OF
THE WEEK
CHUCKY



AFC (After Foster Care)



what's New at the Facility

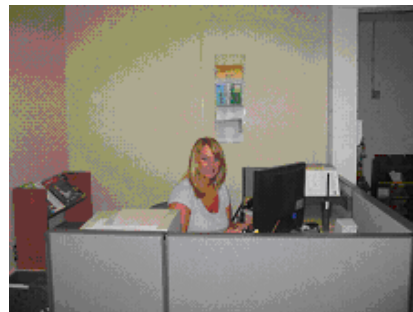
We have also covered the animal “receiving” area with a weather-proof awning that has greatly enhanced the comfort of our animals housed temporarily in that area. Equipped with “sun windows”, the awning provides just the right amounts of shade, sun and breeze.

SHELTER STATISTICS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE

This summer’s intake and adoption statistics continue to inspire us. From January to July 2006, our total shelter intakes were 5,500, very similar to the same period in 2005. One of our major goals is to *decrease* overall intakes, through public education and compliance with animal regulations. In spite of our continued city growth, we are seeing the numbers of intakes start to level off. Shelter staff and dedicated volunteers are reaching the public with the message of responsible pet ownership in Chula Vista. More great news is that we have adopted out 1,509 animals this year compared to 1,217 during the same period in 2005. The shelter overall euthanasia rate continues to drop, with 25% less animals euthanized this year compared to the same time last year. The majority of cats euthanized in shelters are because they are too young to survive without foster care. Our strong foster program is helping greatly reduce the need to euthanize tiny kittens. Thank you foster volunteers!



The Awning Under Construction



Office Specialist, Sandy Ghiani at new workstation

Feature story next month, H.E.A.R.T. of ChulaVista, the non-profit corporation created to help CVACF shelter animals and our community pets is official! We will fill you in on our plans for our first community project. Thanks to all the long-term CVACF shelter volunteers who have had this dream and helped us to make it happen.

Thanks to **Betsy Anderson, Sallye Graves, Penny Adams, Diane Verry, Marion Connaughton, and Jean Spafford.**